## Amendments to the Claims

Please replace the original claim set with the following replacement claim set.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for searching a database in an information retrieval system according to user-identified geographical location information using a mobile communications device operating on a wireless network, comprising the steps of:

creating a database for storing at least geographical location information for each of a plurality of items of interest;

receiving geographical location information corresponding to a location of a user's mobile communications device;

receiving a search request from the user;

detecting whether the request is to search the database for items of interest located in a vicinity of the geographical location of the user's mobile communications device or of a different geographical location identified by the user, wherein information regarding the different geographical location is pre-configured by the user at a prior time, by orally ereating a specified name using the mobile communication device and associating the specified name with the different geographical location while the user is in the different geographical location; and

generating a search query for items of interest only within a radial distance certain geographical proximity of the geographical location identified by the user.

- 2. (Currently Amended) The method of searching a database according to claim 1, wherein the geographical location of the user's mobile communications device corresponds to the present location of the user's mobile communications device.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The method of searching a database according to claim 2 wherein the <u>user's communications device comprises a mobile communications device</u>, and the geographical location information of the user's mobile communications device is determined by triangulation of control signal strength received at cell towers surrounding the user's communication device.

- 4. (Currently Amended) The method for searching a database according to claim 2, wherein the <u>user's communications device comprises a mobile communications device</u>, and the geographical location information of the user's mobile communications device is determined by a GPS receiver within the user's communication device.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The method for searching a database according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of wherein the step of generating a search query comprises calculating a radial distance surrounding the specified geographical location, and searching for items of interest at geographical locations within the calculated radial distance.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The method for searching a database according to claim 1, wherein the <u>user's communications device comprises a mobile communications device</u>, and the different geographical location specified by the user is a previous location of the user's mobile communications device.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The method for searching a database according to claim 1, wherein the <u>user's communications device comprises a mobile communications device</u>, and the different geographical location specified by the user is a location known to the system and is then personalized by the user for a future search as a personalized landmark for a radial search.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The method for searching a database according to claim 6 28, wherein orally creating the specified name further comprises the steps of:

receiving a name specified by the user for the specified geographical location;

storing the specified name and corresponding geographical location information as an entry in a locations table; and

upon receiving a request to search for items of interest in the vicinity of a geographical location specified by name,

- (i) searching the locations table for the specified name, and
- (ii) providing the geographical location information corresponding to the specified name in a search query.

- 9. (Original) The method for searching a database according to claim 8, further comprising the step of digitally encoding an audio speech signal of the specified name, wherein the digitally encoded signal identifies a specific location and is stored in the locations table.
- 10. (Original) The method for searching a database according to claim 8, wherein the user pre-configures the locations table with geographical locations at which the user intends to search.
- 11. (Original) The method for searching a database according to claim 8, further comprising the steps of:

requesting a user identification before storing a specified name and corresponding location information in the locations table; and

requesting a user identification before searching the locations table,

wherein the specified names and corresponding locations are stored according to the user identification.

- 12. (Previously presented) An information retrieval system for identifying items of interest located within a vicinity of a user-specified geographical location, comprising:
  - (a) a database records unit for storing a plurality of information about a plurality of items of interest, including a name of each item of interest search, criteria associated with each item of interest, and a corresponding geographical location for each item of interest;
  - (b) a geographic locations processor for receiving a user-defined geographical location for searching the database records unit, said user-defined geographical location being pre-configured by the user at a prior time, by orally creating a specified name using a mobile communication device and associating the specified name with a geographical location while the user is in the geographical location; and
  - (c) a database index for generating a search query including the user-defined geographical location.

- 13. (Previously presented) The information retrieval system according to claim 12, further comprising a question generator table for prompting a user to provide a user-defined geographical location for searching the database records unit.
- 14. (Original) The information retrieval system according to claim 13, wherein the question generator table provides digitized audio speech signals as prompts to a user's mobile communications device.
- 15. (Original) The information retrieval system according to claim 14, wherein the information retrieval system digitally encodes responses to the prompts to create the search query in the database index.
- 16. (Previously presented) The information retrieval system according to claim 12, wherein the geographic locations processor processes user-defined location information provided by a user's mobile communications device, upon receiving an indication from the user, and provides location information to a database index for generating a search query.
- 17. (Previously presented) The information retrieval system according to claim 16, further comprising:
- a geographic locations name encoder for receiving and encoding user-defined geographic location names corresponding to geographical location information provided by a user's mobile communications device; and
- a geographic location database for storing encoded user-defined geographical location names and corresponding geographical location information provided by users for future database searches.

## 18-27. (Cancelled)

## · S/N 09/710,955

- 28. (New) The method as in Claim 1, wherein the step of detecting comprises orally creating a specified name using a mobile communications device and associating the specified name with the different geographical location while the user is in the different geographical location.
- 29. (New) The method as in Claim 1, wherein the geographical proximity is a radial distance relative to the geographical location identified by the user.